Footwear Industry

1669. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether footwear industry has great potential for increasing its exports;

(b) whether this industry suffers from inadequate power supply, poor communications and lack of link roads;

(c) whether industry association of Agra has given the list of their requirements to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While many footwear production centres in the country are well-connected with latest communica-tion and transport systems, problems of infrastructure, and/or inadequate power supply are region specific and seasonal.

(c) to (e) From time to time, the Industry Association represent to the Government Departments concerned for redressal of their grievances. Agra Footwear Manufac-turers and Exporters Chamber and Agra Chapter of the Council of Leather Exports have reportedly taken up the problems of erratic power supply and infrastructure in Agra with the concerned district authorities in Agra.

[Translation]

Separate Counters for Ladies in Banks

1670. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :

KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments propose to open separate counters for ladies in banks keeping in view the incidents of misbehaviour with them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said counters are likely to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to open separate bank counters for ladies.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Import of Second Hand Goods

1671. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VARMA :

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the second hand capital goods are being brought in the country in abundance;

(b) whether any High Powered Committee has been set up to enquire into the facts in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations of the said Committee; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Under the current Export Import Policy, import of second hand capital goods is permitted without an import licence by actual users only.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Munidih Project

1672. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether several quarters in Munidih Project under B.C.C.L. have been damaged due to caving in of land forcing shifting of the office of the General Manager to other place;

(b) if so, when the land was caved in and the reasons therefor:

(c) whether it is a fact that gas and fire has spread in the Munidih Project;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) During 1991-92, a few quarters in Munidih Project of Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) were affected on account of planned subsidence due to depillaring operations by Long Wall caving method. The office of General Manager was also shifted.

(c) In Munidih Colliery, a degree III gassy mines, methane gas is released during mining operations, which is diluted to safe statutory limits by adequate ventilation in the working. There has been no spread of fire in Mnidih Colliery.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

(e) All the precautions are taken at the surface where subsidence is planned due to extraction of underground coal seams at Munidih Colliery.